## Harmonic mappings valued in the Wasserstein space

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Diff. Geom, Math. Phys., PDE Seminar - University of British Columbia

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## Measure-valued mappings

$\Omega$ bounded set of $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ with Lipschitz boundary, $D$ bounded convex set of $\mathbb{R}^{d}$. $\mathcal{P}(D)$ set of probability measures on $D$, "Wasserstein space".

We study $\boldsymbol{\mu}: \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$.


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Minimizers of Dir are called harmonic mappings (valued in the Wasserstein space).
If $f: \Omega \rightarrow D$ and $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\xi):=\delta_{f(\xi)}$ then $\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu})=\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega}|\nabla f|^{2}$.

## Surface mapping (solomon et. al.)

$\mathcal{M}$ and $\mathcal{N}$ are surfaces embedded in $\mathbb{R}^{3}$.
We want a map $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ with the least stretching.


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We want a map $f: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ with the least stretching.
The constraint of being single valued is relaxed by taking $\mu: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{N})$. The problem becomes convex.
$\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu})=\int_{\mathcal{M}} \frac{1}{2}|\nabla \boldsymbol{\mu}|^{2}$ is a measure of the stretching of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$.


## In this presentation

1. The Wasserstein space and the Dirichlet energy
2. The Dirichlet problem
3. What can be said about these harmonic mappings?

## 1. The Wasserstein space and the Dirichlet energy

## The metric tensor in the Wasserstein space

$D \subset \mathbb{R}^{d}$ bounded convex, $\mathcal{P}(D)$ is the "Wasserstein space".


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Vertical derivative



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Vertical derivative



Horizontal derivative


A particle located at $x$ moves to $x+h \mathbf{v}(x)$

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-\partial_{t} \mu=\nabla \cdot(\mu \mathbf{v})
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Vertical derivative



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$$

A particle located at $x$ moves to $x+h \mathbf{v}(x)$

- Quadratic Optimal Transport: the square of the norm of the speed is

$$
\min _{\mathbf{v}: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d}}\left\{\int_{D}|\mathbf{v}(x)|^{2} \mu(\mathrm{~d} x): \nabla \cdot(\mu \mathbf{v})=-\partial_{t} \mu\right\}
$$

## Curves valued in the Wasserstein space

If $\boldsymbol{\mu}:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$ is given, its Dirichlet energy (or action) is

$$
\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu}):=\min _{\mathbf{v}}\left\{\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} \int_{D}|\mathbf{v}|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \boldsymbol{\mu} \mathrm{~d} t: \partial_{t} \boldsymbol{\mu}+\nabla \cdot(\boldsymbol{\mu} \mathbf{v})=0\right\} .
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The Wasserstein distance $W_{2}$ is

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\frac{1}{2} W_{2}^{2}(\rho, \nu)=\min _{\mu}\left\{\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu}): \boldsymbol{\mu}_{0}=\rho, \boldsymbol{\mu}_{1}=\nu\right\}
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and the minimizers are the constant-speed geodesics.

## The Dirichlet energy

## Definition (Brenier (2003))

If $\mu: \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$ is given,

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\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu}):=\min _{\mathbf{v}}\left\{\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int_{D}|\mathbf{v}|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \boldsymbol{\mu}: \nabla_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\mu}+\nabla_{D} \cdot(\boldsymbol{\mu} \mathbf{v})=0\right\}
$$

where $\mathbf{v}: \Omega \times D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\text {nd }}$.
If $\Omega=[0,1]$ it coincides with the previous definition.

## A definition in arbitrary metric space

If $f: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is smooth,

$$
\operatorname{Dir}(f)=\int_{\Omega}|\nabla f(\xi)|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \xi=
$$

$$
\frac{|f(\xi)-f(\eta)|^{2}}{\varepsilon^{2}}
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## Definition (Korevaar and Schoen (1993), Jost (1994))

If $(X, \delta)$ is a separable metric space and $f: \Omega \rightarrow X$, then

$$
\operatorname{Dir}_{\varepsilon}(f)=\frac{C_{n}}{2 \varepsilon^{n+2}} \iint_{\Omega \times \Omega} \delta(f(\xi), f(\eta))^{2} \mathbb{1}_{|\xi-\eta| \leqslant \varepsilon} \mathrm{d} \xi \mathrm{~d} \eta .
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The Dirichlet energy of $f$ is then defined as the limit of $\operatorname{Dir}_{\varepsilon}(f)$ when $\varepsilon$ goes to 0 .

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Defined in arbitrary metric spaces but the analysis can be carried out only for spaces of NonPositive Curvature. $\left(\mathcal{P}(D), W_{2}\right)$ has a positive curvature.

## Equivalence of the definitions

If $\boldsymbol{\mu}: \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$, one sets

$$
\operatorname{Dir}_{\varepsilon}(\boldsymbol{\mu}):=\frac{C_{n}}{2 \varepsilon^{n+2}} \iint_{\Omega \times \Omega} W_{2}^{2}(\boldsymbol{\mu}(\xi), \boldsymbol{\mu}(\eta)) \mathbb{1}_{|\xi-\eta| \leqslant \varepsilon} \mathrm{d} \xi \mathrm{~d} \eta .
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$$

## Theorem

One has

$$
\lim _{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{Dir}_{\varepsilon}=\text { Dir, }
$$

and the convergence holds pointwisely and in the sense of $\Gamma$-convergence along the sequence $\varepsilon_{m}=2^{-m}$.

The space $\{\boldsymbol{\mu}: \operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu})<+\infty\}$ coincides with $H^{1}(\Omega, \mathcal{P}(D))$ for the standard definitions of Sobolev spaces in metric spaces (reshetnyak, halkasz).

## Curvature and convexity

If $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(D)$, two ways to interpolate.


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The displacement interpolation


- Midpoint of the geodesic in the Wasserstein space.
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The displacement interpolation


- Midpoint of the geodesic in the Wasserstein space.
- The space $\left(\mathcal{P}(D), W_{2}\right)$ is a positively curved space: no convexity of $W_{2}^{2}$ nor Dir.
- The Wasserstein distance square $W_{2}^{2}$ and the Dirichlet energy are convex.
- Tools from convex analysis.


## 2. The Dirichlet problem

## The Dirichlet problem

We choose $\mu_{b}: \partial \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$ the boundary data.

## Definition

The Dirichlet problem is

$$
\min _{\boldsymbol{\mu}}\left\{\operatorname{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu}): \boldsymbol{\mu}=\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b} \text { on } \partial \Omega\right\} .
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## Theorem

Assume $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}: \partial \Omega \rightarrow\left(\mathcal{P}(D), W_{2}\right)$ is a Lipschitz mapping. Then there exists at least one solution to the Dirichlet problem.

Tool: extension theorem for Lipschitz mappings valued in $\left(\mathcal{P}(D), W_{2}\right)$. Uniqueness is an open question.

## Numerics: example

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## Numerics: convex optimization à la Benamou and Brenier

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## Primal Problem

Unknowns ( $\mathrm{m}=\mu \mathrm{v}$ momentum):

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\begin{gathered}
\boldsymbol{\mu}: \Omega \times D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+} \\
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under the constraints

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$\max _{\varphi}\left\{\int_{\partial \Omega} \int_{D} \varphi(\xi, \cdot) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\Omega}(\xi) \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathrm{b}}(\xi) \mathrm{d} \xi\right\}$, under the constraint

$$
\nabla_{\Omega} \cdot \varphi+\frac{1}{2}\left|\nabla_{D \varphi}\right|^{2} \leqslant 0 .
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In practice: finite-dimensional "approximation" then ADMM.

## 3. What can be said about these harmonic mappings?

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On the Wasserstein space there exists $F: \mathcal{P}(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ convex along (generalized) geodesics. For instance:

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- The interaction energies, e.g.

$$
\mu \mapsto \iint_{D \times D}|x-y|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \mu(x) \mathrm{d} \mu(y) .
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On the Wasserstein space there exists $F: \mathcal{P}(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ convex along (generalized) geodesics. For instance:

- The potential energies, e.g.

$$
\mu \mapsto \int_{D}|x|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \mu(x)
$$

- The interaction energies, e.g.

$$
\mu \mapsto \iint_{D \times D}|x-y|^{2} \mathrm{~d} \mu(x) \mathrm{d} \mu(y) .
$$

- The internal energies, e.g.

$$
\mu \mapsto \begin{cases}\int_{D} \mu \ln \mu & \text { if } \mu \text { has a density w.r.t. Lebesgue } \\ +\infty & \text { else }\end{cases}
$$

Maximum principle

## Maximum principle

## Theorem

Take $F: \mathcal{P}(D) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup\{+\infty\}$ convex along generalized geodesics (and few additional regularity property) and a boundary condition $\mu_{b}: \partial \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(D)$ such that $\sup _{\partial \Omega}\left(F \circ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}\right)<+\infty$.

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Then there exists at least one solution $\mu$ of the Dirichlet problem with boundary conditions $\mu_{b}$ such that

$$
\Delta(F \circ \boldsymbol{\mu}) \geqslant 0 \quad \text { and } \quad \quad \operatorname{ess} \sup _{\Omega}(F \circ \boldsymbol{\mu}) \leqslant \sup _{\partial \Omega}\left(F \circ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}\right)
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$$

Already known for harmonic mappings valued in Riemannian manifolds (Ishinara) and Non Positively Curved spaces (Sturm).

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If $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\varepsilon}$ minimizes $\operatorname{Dir}_{\varepsilon}$, then for a.e. $\xi \in \Omega$, the measure $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\varepsilon}(\xi)$ is a (Wasserstein) barycenter of the $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\varepsilon}(\eta)$ for $\eta \in B(\xi, \varepsilon)$.


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Jensen inequality for Wasserstein barycenters (Agueh, Carlier):

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Then limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ to get subharmonicity.

## Case of delta functions

Assume $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}(\xi)=\delta_{f_{b}(\xi)}$.


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Assume $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}(\xi)=\delta_{f_{b}(\xi)}$. Then $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\xi)=\delta_{f(\xi)}$ where $f$ is the (usual) harmonic extension of $f_{b}$.
Indeed the variance satisfies a maximum principle.


## Case of Gaussian measures

Family of "elliptically contoured distributions" $\mathcal{P}_{e c}(D)$, think Gaussians measures.


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Family of "elliptically contoured distributions" $\mathcal{P}_{\text {ec }}(D)$, think Gaussians measures.

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## Theorem

Let $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}: \partial \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\text {ec }}(D)$ Lipschitz such that $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}(\xi)$ is not singular for every $\xi \in \partial \Omega$.

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## Theorem

Let $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}: \partial \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\text {ec }}(D)$ Lipschitz such that $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{b}(\xi)$ is not singular for every $\xi \in \partial \Omega$.

Then there exists a unique solution to the Dirichlet problem, it is valued in $\mathcal{P}_{\text {ec }}(D)$ and it is smooth.

## Thank you for your attention

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